



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No.: 7574

RONDEAU et al.

Group Art Unit: 3618

Appln. No.: 09/922,237

Examiner: Gerald B. Klebe

Filed: August 6, 2001

Title: FENDER STRUCTURE FOR AN ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE

February 6, 2003

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

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Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated November 6, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 8, please delete paragraph 38, and replace it with the following new paragraph:

al
The fender structure 203 also includes a support portion that is designed as a load bearing surface. The support portion is defined by at least a top portion of one or more of the left and right fenders 204. In Fig. 3, the support portion includes a plurality of integrally formed raised support portions 220, 222 that are built-in to the fender structure 203. The support portions 220 may be in the form of lateral portions on each side of the front storage compartment 202, and the support portions 222 may be in the form of cross-over portions that are transverse to the lateral portions 220. The upper surface of the cover 211 may include one or more raised support portions that are similar to the lateral support portions 220. In this embodiment, the lateral portions 220 and the cross-over portions 222 are designed as and define the support surface. As shown in Figure 3, the bottom surface of the storage compartment 202 also includes raised portions 223, i.e., ribs, defining a raised support plane and providing flexural rigidity. In addition to providing a load bearing surface, the lateral